

Message Text

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71

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 EB-11 FAA-00 IO-12 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-14 USIE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CCO-00

RSR-01 /089 W

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O R 302021 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7059

INFO GOV PAN CANAL

USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 1805

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN, PFOR, PN, PQ

SUBJ: CANAL ZONE: USE OF OLD FRANCE FIELD BY AEROMAR, S. A.

REF: STATE 020201

SUMMARY: REQUEST DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZE DELIVERY NOTE ON
THIS SUBJECT MONDAY, APRIL 2. END SUMMARY.

1. AS DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL, PRIVATE PANAMANIAN COMMERCIAL
AIRLINE, AEROMAR, SA, HAS USED OLD FRANCE FIELD WITHOUT
AUTHORIZATION AND IN VIOLATION OF ARTICLE III, PARAGRAPH
5 OF 1936 TREATY. EMBASSY HAS SOUGHT REPEATEDLY TO HAVE
GOP INTERCEDE WITH AEROMAR TO CEASE USING OLD FRANCE FIELD
OR REQUEST THAT USG " WAIVE " TREATY PROVISIONS PER RATIONALE
PARAGRAPHA (1) AND (2) STATE 020201.

2. ALTHOUGH AEROMAR DID STOP USING OLD FRANCE FIELD FOR
A TIME, AIRLINE RESUMED OPERATIONS EARLY THIS YEAR. CANAL
ZONE AUTHORITIES HAVE LETTER TO AEROMAR INDICATING THAT
AIRLINE SHOULD STOP USING FIELD OR OBTAIN CANAL ZONE LICENSE
TO DO BUSINESS. THIS RESULTED IN BRIEF USE OF COLON CORRIDOR
AS LANDING STRIP, WITH GREAT DANGER AND HAZARD FOR EVERYONE
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INVOLVED. SUBSEQUENTLY, AEROMAR HAS AGAIN RESUMED USE OF OLD FRANCE FIELD, BUT GOP HAS TAKEN NO ACTION TO "LEGALIZE" AEROMAR'S OPERATIONS.

3. IN ORDER TO PUT AN END TO THIS ANARCHY, CANAL ZONE AUTHORITIES HAVE APPROACHED OWNER OF AEROMAR AND ASKED THAT HE APPLY FOR LICENSE TO DO BUSINESS IN CANAL ZONE. EMBASSY HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT OWNER HAS DONE SO. CANAL ZONE GOVERNMENT PROPOSES ISSUE LICENSE WHICH WOULD AUTHORIZE AEROMAR USE OF OLD FRANCE FIELD FOR AIR TRANSPORTATION OF PASSENGERS, MAIL AND CARGO BUT NOT TO ESTABLISH BUSINESS OFFICE OR PURCHASE FUEL OR MATERIAL FROM CANAL ZONE SOURCES. PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF LICENSE, EMBASSY PROPOSES TO SEND NOTE TO FONMIN WHICH IN EFFECT STATES THAT GOP KNOWS THAT AEROMAR IS CONTINUING TO USE OLD FRANCE FIELD AND MUST PERFORCE APPROVE OF SAME. IT IS PROBLEMATICAL WHETHER OR NOT FONOFF WILL REPLY TO NOTE SINCE NO REPLY RECEIVED TO AMBASSADOR'S DRAFT NOTE CONCERNING OPERATION OF NEW FRANCE FIELD BY PANAMA'S CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY (DIRECCION DE AERONAUTICA CIVIL- DAC). TEXT OF PROPOSED NOTE FOR DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL FOLLOWS, WITH UNNECESSARY WORDS OMITTED:

BEGIN QUOTE:

A. EMBASSY HAS HONOR TO REFER TO NOTE NO. 006 OF JANUARY 8, 1973, WHEREIN EMBASSY CALLED ATTENTION OF FOREIGN MINISTRY TO UNAUTHORIZED USE OF OLD FRANCE FIELD, LOCATED IN CANAL ZONE, BY PRIVATE PANAMANIAN AIRLINE, AEROMAR.

B. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION AVAILABLE, AEROMAR WAS ORGANIZED BY PUBLIC WRIT NO. 4873 OF AUGUST 17, 1971, ... AS A PRIVATE COMPANY AUTHORIZED TO ENGAGE IN AIR TRANSPORTATION OF PASSENGERS, MAIL AND CARGO FOR HIRE.

C. MINISTRY WILL RECALL EMBASSY POINTED OUT IN NOTE THAT AEROMAR WAS OPERATING ITS AIRCRAFT FROM OLD FRANCE FIELD FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES IN VIOLATION OF ARTICLE III OF THE GENERAL TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION OF 1936. EMBASSY REQUESTED THAT GOP INTERCEDE WITH AEROMAR TO END THAT AEROMAR INNER QUOTE FEASE USING OLD FRANCE FIELD FOR COMMERCIAL AIR ACTIVITIES. END INNER QUOTE.

D. BASED UPON ABOVE ANTECEDENTS, INCLUDING NUMEROUS CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN OFFICIALS OF OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS ON CONFIDENTIAL

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THIS SUBJECT, AND TAKING INTO COSIDERATION THAT AEROMAR

CONTINUES TO PERFORM PRIVATE COMMERCIAL AIR OPERATIONS BETWEEN MARCOS A. GELABERT AIRPORT, SITUATED AT PUNTA PAITILLA IN THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA, AND OLD FRANCE FIELD, LOCATED WITH IN THE CANAL ZONE, WITH AERONAUTICAL FLIGHT PLANS APPROVED BY THE CIVIAL AVIATION AUTHORITY (DAC), THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WILL HENCEFORTH CONSIDER THAT THE PRIVATE COMMERCIAL AIR OPERATIONS OF AEROMAR, S. A. ARE CONTINUING WITH THE FULL KNOWLEDGE, CONSENT AND APPROVAL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA. END QUOTE.

4. REQUEST DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZE DELIVERY NOTE MONDAY, APRIL 2 TO MINIMIZE FURTHER RISK UNTOWARD EVENTS.
SAYRE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 30 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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Subject: CANAL ZONE: USE OF OLD FRANCE FIELD BY AEROMAR, S. A.
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To: GOV PAN CANAL
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